

City of La Verkin

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La Verkin City Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 111 S. Main, LaVerkin, Utah

Present: Mayor Kerry Gubler; Council-Members: Chantelle Browning, Richard Hirschi, Ken Hooten, Randy Reeve; Staff: Kyle Gubler, Derek Imlay, Troylinn Benson, Kevin Bennett, and Christy Ballard; Public: Blair Gubler, Chief Tom Kuhlmann, Karl and Melanie Wilson, John and Rose Valenti, Robert Fawson, Reubin Wadsworth, Tiffany Mower, and Patricia Gubler.

Councilman Brandon Stephenson has been excused.

A. Called to Order – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Chantelle Browning at 6:00pm.

B. Recognitions:

Kevin Bennett gave a tribute to former Mayor Karl Wilson (see attachment A). Karl was presented with a plaque, card, and copy of the picture that hangs in mayor hall at the City Office building.

Karl Wilson thanked the new Mayor and City Councilmembers for their willingness to put themselves out there and run for the positions they have. He feels this is the best form of government in the world. He also stated they have one of the best staffs in Utah; all that Kevin attributed to him could not have been done without the help and support of the staff. In his experience with the staff he feels they all go above and beyond what is required and truly have the city of La Verkin at heart. He thanked everyone for the tribute.

C. Presentation:

1. Youth City Council

Robert Fawson reported on the activities The YCC were able to attend during Local Officials Day at the Legislature on January 29th.

Mayor Gubler thanked the chaperones and Councilwoman Browning for making this trip possible for the youth.

2. Tiffany Mower started off by introducing herself and explaining the job she does for the City. The position is part time through the Hurricane Police Department but she covers the valley. She is on call 24 hours a day and the only person on staff who does this with a couple of volunteers who help fill in. She responds to wherever she is needed on sight, the hospital, etc.

There were graphs in the council meeting packets. The numbers from those graphs are strictly cases she gets involved in as the victim service coordinator. In 2012 she had 58 cases in La Verkin. In 2013 she had 88. That is a significant increase and also shows the program is being utilized.

Thursdays are the day she is in La Verkin so if there is anyone who can't make it to Hurricane for whatever reason they can see her then.

The Victim Service Program is funding entirely through grants from the Federal Government.

Councilman Hirschi asked if the cases are getting more violent.

Tiffany replied not necessarily more violent but more malicious. There has been an increase in threats against property and people as opposed to a shove or slap.

Councilman Hooten asked what services the Victim Service Program provide.

Tiffany answered they can petition the State to pay the victims rent or purchase food for them. They will get them in contact with ORS or Utah Legal Services if they choose to divorce the perpetrator. They will provide transportation to court or a shelter. She will do whatever needs to be done to make the victim safe including helping to relocate them to other states.

D. Consent Agenda: (Items on the consent agenda may not require discussion. These items will be a single motion unless removed at the request of the Mayor or City Council.)

1. Declarations of conflict of interest
2. Agenda
3. January 15, 2014 regular meeting minutes and January 6, 2014 special meeting minutes.
4. Review Invoices and Checks: \$52,925.57

Motion was made by Councilman Richard Hirschi to approve the consent agenda as written including the January 15, 2014 regular meeting minutes and checks and invoices in the amount of \$52,925.57, second by Councilman Ken Hooten. Roll Call Vote: Reeve-yes, Hooten-yes, Hirschi-yes, Browning-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Committee Reports:

1. Planning Commission – There has not been a meeting, it will be next week.
2. Water Board – The Water Board has not met.
3. Fire District-Chief Kuhlmann reported the legislation is in session. There is one bill that will greatly impact the EMS provision. Currently the reimbursement from Medicaid almost covers the cost of fuel to transport. This bill is asking to adjust that fee. Chief will be going back to Salt Lake to meet with the Senators to discuss two other bills; one has to do with getting more mitigation funds in place for catastrophic wildfires, the second deals with the issue of fires on Federal or State lands. Right now when there is a fire on those properties the discussion is not how to put out the fire but who is going to pay for putting out the fire. This bill will eliminate the Wildlife Urban Interface Suppression Fund, which doesn't generate enough funds to pay for all the fires, and allow fire departments/districts etc to put the fire out and the State will cover the cost. All three of the bills will be a great benefit to the municipalities.

Councilman Hirschi asked about the token payment made to the State for the "L" fire.

Kevin replied the payment has never been made. The letter was sent but during the time the issue was going on there were several changes made to the Attorney General's Office and to the State Forester. Kevin is waiting to hear from them.

Chief stated that he will be going to Salt Lake on Friday, if La Verkin City would like to have him represent La Verkin if the issue comes up he would be happy to do so he will just need to meet with Kevin and/or the Mayor to get some direction before he leaves.

4. Sewer Board-Blair reported on the last meeting. Three small subdivisions were approved for Hurricane. There is a lot of growth in all three cities. The new board seems to be running smoothly. The cities are all represented very well. They have started cleaning in Hurricane and a new 30 acre pivot has been put in at the pond which will be planted with oats this year.

F. Citizen Comment & Request for Future Agenda Items:

No Comments were made.

G. Business:

1. Reappointments and Employment Renewals

- a) Discussion and possible action to (1) reappoint and (2) enter into a new contract with the City Administrator (2-year reappointment)
- b) Discussion and possible action to (1) reappoint and (2) enter into a new contract with the City Attorney (2-year reappointment)
- c) Discussion and possible action to reappoint:
 - Director of Operations (2-year reappointment)
 - Coordinator of Administrative Services (2-year reappointment)

Councilman Hirschi asked who administered the yearly evaluation for the City Administrator and City Attorney and would the councilmembers know the results.

Kyle replied that the Mayor gives both evaluations.

Mayor Gubler replied that if there is a problem or concern he would write up a report and bring it to the council.

Councilman Reeve stated he feels the contracts should offset the election cycle to give the newly elected councilmembers/mayor a chance to get to know the people in both of those positions before they are asked to vote on renewing a contract with them.

Mayor Gubler pointed out making that change would require the Code to be changed and said he likes the way it is done now.

Kevin explained it is set up this way so the Mayor has to right to change particularly the City Administrator because that position works so closely with the Mayor when he is elected.

Motion was made by Councilman Ken Hooten to reappoint and enter into a new two year contract with the City Administrator and the City Attorney and to reappoint for two years the Director of Operations and Coordinator of Administrative Services, second by Councilman Richard Hirschi. Roll Call Vote: Browning-yes, Hirschi-yes, Hooten-yes, Reeve-no. Motion carried.

2. Administration of Oath of Office:

- a) Swearing in of City Administrator
- b) Swearing in of other reappointed City officials

Motion was made by Councilman Randy Reeve to administer the Oath of Office to the City Administrator and the other reappointed City officials, second by Councilman Richard Hirschi.

Troylinn Benson, as a Notary Public, swore in Kyle Gubler as the City Administrator.

Kyle Gubler swore in Kevin Bennett, Derek Imlay and Troylinn Benson.

H. Staff, Mayor & Council Reports:

City Administrator- Kyle Gubler

Kyle passed out his report. The Easter Egg Hunt is the next City event; it will be April 19th at Wanlass Park.

Economic Development- there is 10 new construction building permits, 9 of which are new homes.

Public Safety- Chief Lloyd Watkins

Chief was not present.

Director of Operations-Derek Imlay

Derek passed around a list of projects his crew will be working on. The 2014 Street Maintenance Project was started Monday. They are putting the crack seal down now and will wait until the end of February/first of March to put the emulsion seal down so it will adhere to the asphalt.

The Silver Acres Project is slated to start on February 24th and end May 24th.

Reconstruction of SR9 will be on the west side of the road and go from bridge to bridge. He has asked the State to replace the four drainage crossings as part of their project. Right now it looks like they are willing to do that.

Sunset View Estates is working on getting everything they need to start that subdivision again as well as replace 400 N from 100 E to the entrance of that subdivision.

Interstate Rock and the School District want to extend Main Street down to the Districts property. It will be a 60ft road. Interstate is doing the Silver Acres Project and the road extension so they would like to get a zone put into place so they can work on the first phase of their subdivision.

Councilman Hooten commented he is concerned with the safety of the school children during the SR9 construction.

Derek replied the City has not been invited to the meetings up to now but has requested he be notified when they are and he will bring that concern up to them.

Councilman Hirschi agreed with Councilman Hooten and suggested UDOT having a safety officer at the cross walk when school is starting and getting over.

Derek said that UDOT has assigned two public information officers to coordinate with UDOT and the City so if that concern doesn't get addressed in the meetings he will bring it up with them.

Councilman Hooten suggested coordinating with Mr. Leavenworth at La Verkin Elementary and have him educate the students as well.

Treasurer-Troylinn Benson

The budget meeting was today, they have started working on next year's budget.

Thanked her staff for covering while she was gone.

Shut offs will be in two weeks. There were 20 last month and they all back on.

Mayor Gubler-La Verkin City is in the process of hiring a new police chief. Chief Lloyd Watkins has moved his family to Newcastle. He has agreed to stay on as a interim chief until someone can get hired.

The hiring committee will include members from the community, representation from the City Council and the City and representation from a law enforcement agency outside of our own community.

Browning- Nothing to report.

Hooten- The Fire District meeting was cancelled. He did meet with the Budget Committee today and was very impressed with how well that meeting went. Next year's budget is well on its way.

Hirschi- Kate Wadsworth does a great job with animal control. She is still trying to recover from her surgery and only works until noon so if there are any animal issues the police are handling it and doing a good job. There will be a rabies clinic from 9am-12pm on February 8th and 22nd, staff will also be on hand to license as well.

Reeve- Solid Waste meets on Monday.

Kevin reminded the Councilmembers that the Animal Ordinance passed last fall goes into effect at midnight February 17th and that it does change the way animals will be handled within the zoning.

L. Adjourn:

Motion was made by Councilman Ken Hooten to adjourn, second by Councilwoman Chantelle Browning. Motion carried unanimously at 6:56pm.

Minutes were taken on behalf of the City Recorder by Christy Ballard.

February 19, 2014
Date Approved

ATTEST:

Kyle Gubler
Kyle Gubler
City Recorder

Kerry Gubler
Mayor, Kerry Gubler

